

From: Stephanie Owens/DC/USEPA/US
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To: Sarah Pallone
CC:
Subject: Fw: update on the drama

Stephanie Owens
Deputy Associate Administrator
Office of External Affairs and Environmental Education
U.S. EPA
Phone: 202.564.6879
Fax: 202.501.1789

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To: Stephanie Owens/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Dru Ealons/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

From: Brendan Gilfillan/DC/USEPA/US

Date: 04/26/2012 02:24PM

Cc: Betsaida Alcantara/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Andra Belknap/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Alisha Johnson/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, David Bloomgren/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Moats/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephanie Epner/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert Delp/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

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Blog from Cynthia here: <http://blog.epa.gov/administrator/2012/04/26/enforcing-americas-environmental-laws/>

Here's an excerpt (not word for word) from today's WH press briefing:

Fox: Are there any concerns that this tape was doctored? Are you alleging it's selectively edited?

Jay: I have not heard suggested that there's an issue with the tape's validity. You noted that the individual apologized and made clear that those comments are an inaccurate way to characterize the work EPA does. It is inaccurate – in fact, a rule put out by EPA put out on natural gas was supported by both industry and environmentalists, demonstrating the approach we take on this. Oil and gas production has increased each year, oil and gas at an 8 year high, natural gas production up the highest in history. Foreign oil dependence down. POTUS supports all of the above approach, documenting and proving those comments don't reflect his policy or approach the Agency has taken.

Fox: Inhofe – the comments are a reflection of actions taken by the Agency in places like Dimock, where we've accused companies of contaminating water – do these comments call into question those actions?

Jay: Official's comments are not only an inaccurate representation of how EPA has operated under POTUS, they are provably inaccurate by our record on these issues. [Walks back through production numbers]. Clearly there is not an effort of the nature you talk about – quite to the contrary, there's a commitment to ensure that natural gas is an essential part of our future, potus believes we can exploit

Fox: Ok, so, given that these comments don't represent the POTUS approach, and given the President's campaign commitment to hope, change, setting a new tone – why is this individual still working at EPA?

Jay: Again, the individual has apologized, what he's said is clearly not representative of either this president's belief or how we have approached these matters – either from WH or from EPA.